



BEDWELLTY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORTS

of the

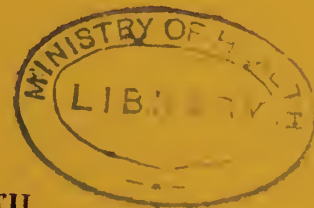
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1953.





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BEDWELLTY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1 9 5 4

Chairman: - Councillor F.O. Sainsbury, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: - Councillor A.G. Parfitt.

MEMBERS

Alderman E. Thomas, J.P.	Councillor J.D. Turner.
Councillor Lewis Lewis.	" G.M. Harries.
" W. Davies.	" S.T. Williams.
" E.G. Thomas.	" J. Roberts, J.P.
" D. Davies.	" W. Hardacre.
" E. Johns.	" I. Bowen.
" T.I. Davies.	" S.J. Collicott.
" E.J. Butler.	" G.H. Hodges.
" J. Salway.	" W.H. Alderman.
" G.H. Hawker.	

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: - Councillor I. Bowen.

Vice-Chairman: - Councillor Lewis Lewis.

Alderman E. Thomas, J.P.	Councillor G.H. Hodges.
Councillor D. Davies.	" A.G. Parfitt.
" F.O. Sainsbury, J.P.	" G.H. Thomas.
" T.I. Davies.	" S.T. Williams.
" J.D. Turner.	" W.H. Alderman.
" W. Hardacre.	

Clerk to the Council: - D. Hilton Lewis, Esq.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	...	...	Dr. Richard Hoey, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	...	...	Dan Powell, M.B.E., F.R.S.I., F.S.I.A. (Qualified Meat and Foods Inspector)
Sanitary Inspector	...	...	A.M. Coleman, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Qualified Meat and Foods Inspector)
Sanitary Inspector & Shops Inspector.	...	...	W.T. Rees, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Qualified Meat and Foods Inspector)
Rodent Operator	...	...	Sidney Parker.
Clerk	...	...	Selwyn Davies.
Mortuary & Post Mortem Attendant	...	...	Elias Jones (Part-time)

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1953

Area of District in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	7,353
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	...	31,088
(Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	30,970
(Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	28,826
Estimated population for Birth & Death Rates	...	...	...	...	...	28,480
Number of inhabited houses (31/12/53)	...	...	...	...	...	7,073
Number of persons per house	...	...	...	...	...	4.02
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1954	...	...	...	...	...	£105,627
Product of Penny Rate, 1953-54	...	...	...	...	...	£367
Number of births	...	...	...	...	...	554
Net birth rate	...	...	...	...	...	19.4
Number of illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number of deaths of residents	...	...	...	...	...	333
Net death rate	...	...	...	...	...	11.68
Number of deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	22
Of these there were illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2
Infantile mortality, per 1,000 births	...	...	...	...	...	39.72
Number of women dying from childbirth	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	11
Number of deaths from all forms of Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of deaths from all forms of Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number of deaths from all forms of Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number of deaths from all forms of Measles	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of deaths from all forms of Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	117
Number of deaths from all forms of Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	35
Number of deaths from all forms of Pneumoconiosis	...	...	...	...	...	14

<u>Year</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
1948	703	325
1949	642	338
1950	626	319
1951	577	394
1952	563	300
1953	554	333

BEDWELLY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
Aberbargoed,
Bargoed, Glam.

1st June, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Bedwellty Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

The continued decline of tuberculosis, infant mortality and zymotic diseases would seem to indicate a steady improvement in the health of the population. Against this is set the rising cost of hospital and other curative treatment whilst absenteeism presents a vital national problem upon which the success or otherwise of the National Health Service must ultimately depend.

An extremely gloomy picture of the future has been recently painted by Doctors John Sleigh and Ffrangdon Roberts. They describe the increasing cost of treatment, augmented by research on disease and new forms of therapy, as rising as one arm of a parabolic curve, slowly at first against the time factor, but ever increasing in velocity until finally rising at an almost infinite speed, during an almost infinitely small period of time. In fact the whole population will consist of nurses and doctors who spend their whole life treating one another's diseases, etc., etc., etc.

I am surprised that this theory has been so tamely received in the Public Health Service. For such a state of affairs to exist the whole population would have to be suffering from hitherto unknown diseases (awaiting discovery at an ever-increasing rate) or the human race would have to be on the decline. As it happens the classification and discovery of new diseases appears to have slowed down, a process now almost completed, whilst only the details of their pathology, prevention and treatment appear to be proceeding more rapidly (take poliomyelitis for an example); and, as tuberculosis and infantile mortality continues to drop and every year sees more records - each Bannister sooner or later out-Bannistered - their theory, so dangerous to preventive medicine, becomes more obviously defunct. In any case the reason why the curve should be a parabola or why the graph should be a curve has never been explained. Surely there is no reason why microbiology, like global geography, should not be a limited science, whilst progress towards prevention and cutting the costs of treatment can proceed as long as the human race continues to exist on this planet. It is curious that no effort has been made to differentiate the actual rising cost of treatment from the results of post-war inflation, e.g. increasing wages and costs of drugs and equipment. I wonder whether, when better amenities are taken into consideration and better working conditions for the staff, that the difference would be so very great.

The success of the Public Health Service must rest on the long-term effects of health education, without which all public health

measures must be valueless (e.g. only understanding and co-operation can check epidemics or improve nutrition). Unfortunately, the public seem to have an inherent resistance to propaganda these days, for pamphlets, posters, lectures and other successful war-time measures remain neglected and unheeded whilst no sane cinema proprietor is prepared to put on a didactic film. The Central Council for Health Education continue to sponsor new methods; magnetic blackboards, flannelgraphs, talking film-strips and other new methods (it is not so much a matter of teaching as of making people want to learn) all blazing the trail for new and dynamic methods of keeping the public away from the hospital, the chemist shop and the surgery, and, it is to be hoped, filling the factory and the farm at the expense of the hospital bed. Bedwellty Council, being a pioneer in the field of Dramatic Health Education with the wartime production of "John Hendy", a play on clean milk, has inspired me to follow their example by putting on two performances of "Delicatessen", a clean food play at Corah's Factory, Aberbargoed, to be followed up with further productions during 1954. I must also thank the Central Council for Health Education for publishing part of my other clean food play "King Alfred" in "The Health Education Digest", and look forward to further progress in still newer methods by the Central Council under the vigorous regime of Doctors John Burton, J. Dalzell-Ward and Emrys Davies.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. A. HOEY.

Medical Officer of Health

B I R T H S 1 9 5 3

The births registered during the year :

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	300	233
Illegitimate	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>
Totals	<u>313</u>	<u>241</u>

Live birth rate per 1,000 of the population	...	19.4
Percentage illegitimate to legitimate	...	3.9%
Stillbirths	... ... ... ... ...	21

Births for the previous years may be compared:

<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
756	703	642	626	577	563	554

D E A T H S 1 9 5 3

The death rate after correction of inward and outward transfers	11.68
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Death rate for the previous years may be compared:

<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
11.78	11.31	11.69	11.00	13.78	10.51	11.68

DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR

Under 1 week	...	...	...	...	...	10
1 - 2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	3
2 - 3 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	-
3 - 4 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	-
Total under one month						13
1 - 3 months	...	...	...	...	...	5
3 - 6 months	...	...	...	...	...	4
6 - 9 months	...	...	...	...	...	-
9 - 12 months	...	...	...	...	...	-
Total						22

COMPARISON OF INFANTILE MORTALITY

Bedwellty Urban District	...	...	...	39.72	per 1,000 births
Monmouth County	...	...	...	32.63	per 1,000 births
England and Wales	...	...	...	26.8	per 1,000 births

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES

N I L

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Per 1,000 births (Live and Still):

Bedwellty	...	...	...	...	0
Monmouth County	...	...	...	...	1.09

CAUSES OF DEATHS 1953

Cause	Males	
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	8	
Tuberculosis (Other)		
Syphilitic Diseases.		
Diphtheria.		
Poliomyelitis.		
Parasite Diseases.	1	-
Cancer (Stomach)	7	2
Cancer (Lung)	5	-
Cancer (Breast)	-	2
Cancer (Uterus)	-	3
Cancer (Other Sites)	8	8
Leukaemia.	1	-
Diabetes.	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	12	21
Coronary Disease - Angina.	20	12
Hypertension with heart disease.	-	-
Other heart diseases.	34	43
Other Circulatory diseases.	3	8
Influenza.	5	1
Pneumonia.	9	7
Bronchitis.	16	5
Other respiratory diseases.	14	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea.	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	4	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate.	1	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	-	-
Congenital, malformation, etc.	1	4
Other defined and illdefined diseases.	19	18
Accidents.	15	2
Suicide.	-	1
Totals	187	146

T U B E R C U L O S I S

Occupational Incidence of Tuberculosis

MALES

Occupation	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Colliery Surface Worker	1	1	2
Unemployed	1	-	1
School Age	4	-	4
Factory Worker	1	-	1
Miner	3	-	3
Newsagent	1	-	1
Farmer	-	1	1

FEMALES

Housewife	10	-	10
Domestic Duties	3	-	3
Factory Worker	3	-	3
School Age	1	-	1
Under School Age	3	-	3
Nurse	1	-	1

HOSPITAL AND SANATORIUM TREATMENT
OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Hospital	Pulmonary Cases		Non-Pulmonary Cases	
	Admitted	Discharged	Admitted	Discharged
Cefn Mably	2	3	—	—
Glan Ely	5	6	—	—
Energlyn	5	1	—	—
S. Wales San., Talgarth	5	5	—	—
Gelligaer Hospital	12	17	—	—
Memorial Ward, Chepstow	4	3	—	—
N. Wales San., Denbigh	2	2	—	—
Sully Hospital	9	7	—	—
City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff	1	—	—	—
Adelina Patti, Swansea	1	—	—	—
Highland Moors	—	1	—	—
West Wales Sanitorium	1	—	—	—
	45	45	—	—

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF
NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary Cases	Non-Pulmonary Cases
January	6	-
February	-	-
March	3	2
April	5	-
May	4	-
June	1	-
July	3	-
August	4	-
September	-	-
October	-	-
November	4	-
December	2	-
	32	2

COMPARISON OF NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS
FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE
LAST TEN YEARS

Year	Formal Notifications	Deaths
1944	52	17
1945	42	22
1946	38	20
1947	35	16
1948	36	19
1949	42	19
1950	32	15
1951	46	10
1952	38	9
1953	34	11

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

The following table shows the new cases of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease during 1953

Age Period in Years	NEW CASES						DEATHS					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	3	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	2	4	6	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	10	11	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	3	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
65 & over	1	-	1	1	-	1	5	-	5	-	-	-
Total	11	21	32	2	-	2	8	2	10	-	1	1

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN
REGISTRATION WARDS AND QUARTERS DURING 1953

Notifiable Disease	Totals	Phillips-town.	New Tredegar	Aberbarroed	Pengam	Cefn Forest	Blackwood.	Argoed	Markham	Hollybush.	QUARTERS 1 2 3 4
Scarlet Fever.	23	4	17	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 8 8 3
Pneumonia.	19	7	8	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	10 3 1 5
Whooping Cough	13	-	3	1	-	4	-	2	3	-	1 - 3 9
Measles	294	10	121	18	19	21	37	54	13	1	274 16 4 -
Paratyphoid B	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	- - 1 -
Sonné Dysentery	6	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 - - 5
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- - - -
Erysipelas	5	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2 - 1 2
Puerperal Pyrexia	16	-	2	3	4	6	1	-	-	-	6 4 4 2
Polomyelitis	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	- - 2 -
Totals	379	23	157	29	23	32	40	57	17	1	298 31 24 26

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES AND DEATHS FROM
INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED													DEATHS												
	AGE GROUPS													AGE GROUPS												
	under 1 yr.	1 - 2 yrs.	2 - 3 yrs.	3 - 4 yrs.	4 - 5 yrs.	5 -10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over	Total all ages.	under 1 yr.	1 - 2 yrs.	2 - 3 yrs.	3 - 4 yrs.	4 - 5 yrs.	5 -10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over	Total all ages.
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	1	1	14	3	2	-	-	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	4	1	3	-	-	6	5	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	8	16
Whooping Cough	1	1	-	6	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles	14	30	38	52	45	112	2	1	-	-	-	-	294	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Paratyphoid B	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sonne' Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	2	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Totals	17	32	39	63	48	134	8	4	15	10	6	2	379	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	6	8	17

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Public Health Department,

Municipal Offices,

(Telephone : Bargoed 226)

Aberbargoed,

Bargoed, Glam.

June 1st. 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bedwellty Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my
ANNUAL REPORT on the work done in my Department for
the year ended 31st. December 1953.

NOTICES SERVED

1. Public Health Act, 1936. (Sec. 92 and 93)
(Abatement of nuisances, repairs to property)

Intimation Notices	...	...	289
Abatement Notices	...	...	74
2. Public Health Act, 1936. (Sec. 83)
(Cleansing of Premises) 9
3. Public Health Act, 1936. (Sec. 138) & Water Act, 1945.
(Provision of adequate water supply to houses) 2
4. Food and Drugs Act, 1938. (Sec. 13)
(Contravention in respect of premises where
food is prepared, sold or stored) ... 1
5. Factories Act, 1937.

Number of Notices	1
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RENT AND MORTGAGES INTEREST RESTRICTION ACTS

No certificate was granted under the above Act during the year.

HOUSING

The number of dwellings inspected for repairs during 1953 amounted to 471.

Notices were served under Section 92 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to attend to repairs in 289 cases.

During 1953, proceedings were commenced to deal with the following properties with a view to demolition:-

- 1 & 2, Fair Oak, Argoed.
- 40, Fair View, Pengam.
- 4, 5 & 6, Cwm Road, Argoed.

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES
RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1953

PART A - CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Act, 1936)

	Number of dwelling houses demolished in the period		Number of persons displaced
	Unfit houses	Other houses	
(1) Land coloured "pink" ...	Nil	—	Nil
(2) Land coloured "grey" ...	—	Nil	

PART B - HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS

	Number of Houses.	Number of persons displaced
<u>DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS</u>		
1. <u>Housing Act, 1936.</u>		
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Sect. 11	Nil	Nil
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Sect. 11 and still in force	5	Nil
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Sect. 12)	1	6
2. <u>Housing Act, 1949.</u>		
(a) Closing Orders made under Sect. 3 (1)	Nil	Nil
(b) Demolition Orders determined and closing orders substituted under Sect. 3 (2)	Nil	Nil
3. <u>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.</u>		
Closing Orders made under Sect. 10 (1)	Nil	Nil
<u>REPAIRS</u>		Number of Houses
<u>Informal Action</u>		
4. Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts		164

Action under Statutory Powers	Number of Houses.
<p>5. <u>Public Health Acts.</u></p> <p>Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices -</p> <p>(a) by owners 60</p> <p>(b) by local authority in default of owners Nil</p>	
<p>6. <u>Housing Act, 1936.</u></p> <p>Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) -</p> <p>(a) by owners Nil</p> <p>(b) by local authority in default of owners Nil</p>	

HOUSING ACT 1936 - UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

A Survey was conducted during the year of houses which, in my opinion, are not up to standard and may be dealt with as being incapable of being repaired at a reasonable expense.

The houses scheduled for immediate demolition are in such a state of decay at present that they cannot be repaired at a reasonable cost. It is suggested that some of these houses be dealt with as Clearance Areas, and the remainder as Individually Unfit Houses. When a Clearance Order is made, the Council must provide alternative accommodation, and it is necessary to obtain the sanction of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government before commencing. With Individually Unfit Houses, there is a moral obligation to rehouse the displaced tenants.

The houses scheduled to be dealt with in five years are those incapable of being repaired due to structural deterioration which is the sequel of inadequate maintenance, and insanitary construction and arrangements. Points to which special attention has been directed, are: insufficient height of rooms, lack of ventilation, insufficient natural lighting, dampness, entry direct from roadway, lack of separate sanitary accommodation and back-to-back houses.

A. HOUSES REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

Ward	Clearance Areas	Individually Unfit Houses	Closure of Part of Houses	Total
New Tredegar	83, 84, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91 & 92, Lower Rd., Cwmsyflog	Puddlers Farm	70, Lower Road, Cwmsyflog.	11

A. HOUSES REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. (CONTD.)

Ward	Clearance Areas	Individually Unfit Houses	Closure of Part of Houses	Total
Aberbargoed	1, 2, 3 & 4, River Row.	1, 2, Railway Cottages. 5, High Street, Bedwellty.	-	7
Pengam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Station Tce.	1, High Street. 40, Fair View.	-	10
Fleur-de-lis	18, 19, 20 & 21, High Street. 39, 39a, 40, 41, 42, 43, Castle St.	4, Riverside Cottages. 7 & 9, Ivor St. 14 & 22, Victoria Road. 17 & 18, Castle St. 1, 2 & 3, Mt. Pleasant	23a, Victoria Rd. 9, Gellihaf.	22
Blackwood	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7, Cwmgelli.	1 & 2, Morris Lane. 3, Berllan-gron. 3, Foundry Cotts. 1, 4 & 5, Hall Street. 4, Gas Terrace.	-	15
Argoed	-	4, 5, 6 & 7, Cwm Road. Round Hse. 1, 2, 3 & 4, Fair Oak.	Lilac Cottage. Fair Oak.	10

Total number of houses to be dealt with immediately:

In Clearance Areas	...	...	...	38
Individually Unfit Houses	...	...	...	33
Closure of Parts of Buildings	...	...	...	4
Total				<u>75</u>

B. HOUSES TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER FIVE YEARS.

Ward	Addresses	No. of Houses
New Tredegar	53, 54, 55, 68, 69, 71, 72, 73, 79, 80, 81, 95 and 96, Lower Road, Cwmsyfiog.	13
Aberbargoed	3 and 4, Quarry Row. 7 and 9, Bedwellty Road. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6, Coedybrain Row.	10

Ward	Addresses	No. of Houses
Pengam	13 & 14, High Street. 1, 2 & 3, Bont Cottages	5
Fleur-de-lis	9 & 10, Twynymudw. 9 & 10, Victoria Road. 12, 13 & 14, Plas Road. 34, Castle Street. 5, 6 & 8, Ivor Street. River Cottage. 3, Riverside Cottages.	13
Blackwood	10 & 11, Hall Street. 1, 2, 3 & 4, High Street. 1, 2 & 3, Gas Terrace. Rose Cottage, near Station.	10
Argoed	Fair Oak Farm, 16, 17, 19, 20 High St.	5
	Total to be dealt with after 5 years	56

C. PREFABRICATED HOUSES.

In view of the prospective life of these buildings, I beg to suggest that the Council should consider including them in the list for demolition within the next ten years. These houses were first occupied in 1946, and this would give them a life of 17 years from date of erection. There are 75 such houses in your area. This figure does not include aluminium or-B.I.S.F. houses.

Total number of houses to be dealt with:

Immediately ...	...	75
In five years	...	56
In ten years...	...	<u>75</u>
Total		<u>206</u>

REQUISITIONED PREMISES.

The undermentioned premises which had been used for housing accommodation have now been de-requisitioned and handed back to the owner:

Lloyds Bank, Commercial Street, New Tredegar.

The families from this house have now been re-housed in Council houses.

The only property now requisitioned is the Tredegar Arms Hostel, Fleur-de-lis, and every effort is being made by the Council to vacate

these premises.

C O U N C I L H O U S E S

Routine survey of Council houses is carried out by this Department, special attention being paid to general cleanliness of the houses and upkeep of gardens.

Prospective tenants for Council houses are visited and their premises inspected for cleanliness before entry into the Council houses. Transfers from one house to another are also inspected.

These reports are submitted to the Chief Financial Officer.

On the whole, the standard of cleanliness in Council houses is being maintained, but it is to be deplored that certain tenants have no interest in the surrounds and gardens.

No. of prospective tenants visited and reports submitted to the Chief Financial Officer ...	156
No. of transfers inspected	54
Empty houses inspected... ..	11
Empty houses disinfested	None

	No. of houses at 1. 5. 54.
Phillipstown	56
Aberbargoed	343
Pengam	249
Cefn Fforest	60
Blackwood	563
Argoed	68
Markham	93
Total	1432

LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR COUNCIL HOUSES (at January 1954)

	In apartments	Others	Total
New Tredegar	143	59	202
Aberbargoed	137	38	175
Pengam	138	52	190
Cefn Fforest	108	12	120
Blackwood	125	59	184
carried forward	651	220	871

LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR COUNCIL HOUSES (at January 1954)

	In apartments	Others	Total
Argoed	107	25	132
Outside Area	47	24	71
brought forward	651	220	871
Total	805	269	1074

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Inquiries were made in the cases of infectious diseases and in some, disinfection was carried out.

Number of inquiries made 32

Number of disinfections carried out 6

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is one common lodging house registered under the Public Health Act, 1936. It is used by a few aged persons.

Inspections of the premises have been made during the year.

WATER SUPPLIES

There is constant supervision of water supplies and samples are taken regularly to ensure purity. 17 such samples were taken in the year and the supplies proved satisfactory.

If it was found during inspections of the district that the supply of water to houses was inadequate, notices were served on the owner of the premises to provide a proper service to the house.

SWIMMING POOLS

No accommodation is made in the area, the nearest being at Pontllanfraith and Bargoed.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Pollution is still evident and this is mainly due to washings from local collieries and refuse dumped by some householders. This pollution is now receiving the attention of the Rivers Pollution Prevention Board.

Rat infestation of river banks is being carefully watched and the Rodent Operator has done a great deal of work in disinfection.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Samples of deposits from the atmosphere are collected in the special apparatus which is fixed on the roof of a factory in Aberbargoed. These samples show the deposit of grit, smoke and sulphur in the air over a given area. On the 1st December, 1953, the apparatus was removed to a site near the Municipal Offices, Aberbargoed.

The samples were taken every month to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, and the results sent to our Department and to the Department of Industrial and Scientific Research, London.

The monthly results received are:

January	...	...	21.00 tons/sq. mile			
February	...	...	17.41	"	"	"
March	...	...	15.34	"	"	"
April	...	...	14.94	"	"	"
May	...	...	11.91	"	"	"
June	...	...	17.24	"	"	"
July	...	...	22.84	"	"	"
August	...	...	28.71	"	"	"
September	...	...	-	
October	...	...	16.71	"	"	"
November	...	...	24.84	"	"	"
December	...	...	13.46	"	"	"

The deposit gauge also records the rainfall in that particular spot during these months.

The figures are used in conjunction with those of a position in Bargoed, and vary according to prevailing winds.

RAINFALL

I am indebted to the Surveyor for the following information:-

RAINFALL STATISTICS 1953

Monthly Rainfalls

January	...	...	...	1.51 inches
February	...	...	...	2.27 "
March	...	...	...	3.24 "
April	...	...	...	4.62 "
May...	...	...	...	4.27 "
June	...	...	...	2.61 "
July	...	...	...	5.77 "
August	...	...	...	5.30 "

September	...	...	...	6.34 inches
October	...	...	...	4.54 "
November	...	...	...	4.29 "
December	...	...	...	1.70 "

Total for 1953 46.46 "

LOWEST	yearly rainfall since 1921	-	32.57 inches in 1933
HIGHEST	" " " "	-	66.04 inches in 1951
AVERAGE	" " " "	-	51.68 inches

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

No. of factories with mechanical power	...	37
No. of factories without mechanical power...		31
No. of outworkers	... ... ...	None
No. of inspections made	... ... ...	72

Inspections were carried out in conjunction with the Fire Prevention Officer of the County Council, where relevant.

Under Section 34 of the Factories Act, a Certificate as to means of escape in case of fire has been issued for 1 factory. One notice was served for contravention of fire precautions and the notice was complied with forthwith.

CINEMAS

All cinemas have been visited in connection with the ventilation and sanitary accommodation of these premises. The Rodent Operator carried out disinfection of rats in the outbuildings of 3 cinemas.

CAMPING SITES

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269

There are no camping sites in the area, and during the year no applications for licences were received.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The maintenance treatment of sewers, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, was carried out twice during the year by Mr. S. Parker (Rodent Operator) and one casual worker.

Inspections of farms were made under the "Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks, Regulations 1950", when threshing was in progress. All the farmers of the area were circulated informing them of the purposes of the Regulations, and it is pleasing to report that the farmers co-operated with the Department.

Section	No. of Manholes	No. not Baited	No. Baited	Average Pre-bait Takes				No. Trays Fixed	No. of Trays used by rats.
				Complete	Part	Total Takes	No Takes		
New Tredegar	83	4	79	7	35	42	37	41	20
Britannia	8	-	8	3	2	5	3	4	4
Pengam	16	-	16	1	6	7	9	4	2
Fleur-de-lis	55	2	53	3	21	24	29	11	3
Fair View	13	-	13	2	3	5	8	4	1
Cefn Fforest	21	-	21	6	8	14	7	7	4
Blackwood	125	4	121	10	36	46	75	44	16
Rock	17	1	16	1	2	3	13	3	-
Argoed	31	1	30	4	12	16	14	9	6
Markham	26	-	26	-	14	14	12	11	3
Bedwellty	10	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hollybush	21	2	19	-	6	6	13	3	2
Aberbargoed	59	-	59	5	14	19	40	25	6

All types of premises were visited and where necessary, advice was given. Poison baiting, trapping and gassing were carried out according to the infestation.

Below are details of visits, inspections and treatments carried out on various types of premises.

Business premises	...	...	...	39
Council properties (including rivers, refuse tips and culverts)	...	...	...	60
Private dwellings (including Council houses)	...	...	...	262

I would again like to record my thanks, for the co-operation and advice, of the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Rodent Control Department).

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

SECTION 50

BURIAL OR CREMATION OF THE DEAD

Number of persons buried by the Authority - 6

No application was made to cremate a body.

The undertakers are:-

Sirhowy Valley: Mr. Herbert Jones, Blackwood.

Rhymney Valley: Mr. C. Wilde, New Tredegar.

A contract has been made with these undertakers to remove any dead person found on a highway, street or other public place, the Public Mortuary.

PUBLIC MORTUARY AND POST MORTEM ROOM

Number of autopsies conducted in the Post Mortem Room during the year	44
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These premises are under my supervision and the part-time attendant is Mr. Elias Jones.

The cases dealt with were from:-

New Tredegar..... 9	Blackwood..... 7	Outside the
Phillipstown..... 4	Argoed..... -	Bedwellty
Aberbargoed..... 4	Hollybush..... -	Area..... 6
Pengam..... 3	Markham..... 1	
Cefn Fforest..... 6	Fleur-de-lis... 4	

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

SECTION 47

It was not necessary to take action during the year under this Section which provides for the removal to a suitable place of persons who are in need of care and attention through age or disease.

CLEANSING AND SCAVENGING

This work is under the direction of Mr. T.J. Jones, Engineer and Surveyor.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

There were 34 cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. 32 of these cases were of the Pulmonary type.

On the report of the Medical Officer of Health to the Council, a number of persons suffering from Tuberculosis were re-housed in new houses.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

A. FOOD SHOPS AND STORES.

The following foods were found unfit for human consumption and were condemned. This food was surrendered by the shopkeepers during regular inspections at foodshops.

Meat

480 lbs. Home-killed Beef.
136 lbs. Pork Sausages.
50½ lbs. Bacon.
50 lbs. Imported Beef.
16½ lbs. Pork
15 lbs. Beef Sausages.

Fish

266 lbs. Hake.
140 lbs. Haddock.
28 lbs. Cod.
4 tins Herrings.
3 tins Salmon.
2 tins Sild.
1 tin Tuna.

Canned Meat

214½ lbs. Cooked Ham.
84 lbs. Jellied Veal.
32 lbs. Tongue.
4 lbs. Jellied Pork.
44 tins Stewed Steak.
33 tins Minced Beef Loaf.
31 tins Luncheon Meat.
51 tins Pork Brawn.
20 tins Pork Luncheon Meat.
10 tins Corned Beef.
9 tins Veal and Ham Loaf.
5 tins Corned Beef Loaf.
4 tins Corned Mutton.
4 tins Irish Stew.

Vegetables

467 tins Tomatoes.
38 tins Peas.
37 tins Beans.
9 tins Carrots.
6 tins Rhubarb.
4 jars Onions.
2 tins Beetroot.
1 jar Pickles.
1 jar Red Cabbage.
1 jar Spaghetti.

Fruit

262 tins Plums.
64 tins Cherries.
38 tins Damsons.
23 tins Pears.
19 tins Oranges.
17 tins Strawberries.
14 tins Greengages.
12 tins Jams.
12 tins Prunes.
10 tins Fruit Salad.
10 jars Pineapple.
10 jars Blackcurrants.
9 tins Peaches.
8 tins Raspberries.
7 jars Apricots.
7 jars Peaches.
7 jars Pears.
7 tins Grapefruit.
6 tins Apples.
5 tins Bilberries.
4 tins Grapes.
3 tins Gooseberries.
3 tins Grapefruit Juice.

3 tins Orange Juice.
2 tins Pineapple Crush.
2 tins Apricots.
1 tin Marmalade.
1 tin Loganberries.
1 bottle Orange Squash.

Other Foods

92 tins Milk.
64 tins Soup.
57 tins Cream.
20 tins Barley.
15 boxes Cheeselets.
13 packets Cheese Spread.
12 packets Caramel Dessert.
8 jars Fish Paste.
3 lbs. American Cheese.
2 bottles Tomato Sauce.
2 packets Sponge Puddings.
2 pots Meat Paste.
1 tin Apple Pudding.

Approximate weight of foodstuffs condemned during 1953 was -
1 ton 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 1 lb.

B. MILK SUPPLY.

23 samples of milk were taken during the year and of these 5 were unsatisfactory for keeping quality. Steps were taken in these cases to remedy the cause of the unsatisfactory supply.

Number of distributors	...	...	...	55
Number of dairies (other than farms)	...	...	...	6

Licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk Regulations, 1949, and Milk (Special Designations) Raw Milk Regulations, 1949.

(a) Dealers licences for sale of Pasteurised milk.....	21
(b) Dealers licences for sale of Accredited milk.....	3
(c) Dealers licences for sale of Tuberculin tested milk.....	9
(d) Dealers licences for sale of T.T. (Pasteurised) milk.....	7
(e) Licences in respect of bottling establishments.....	-
(f) Supplementary licences for sale of designated milk by vendors from outside the area.....	9
(g) Dealers licences for sale of Sterilised milk.....	5

C. ICE CREAM.

4 samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination. The results were:-

Grade I	...	...	...	1
Grade II	...	...	...	1
Grade III	...	...	...	-
Grade IV	...	...	...	2

Constant supervision is made during the summer months of establishments manufacturing ice-cream.

No. of retailers on the register - 47

D. MEAT INSPECTION.

Constant inspection of meat has been carried out at the Maesycwmmmer Slaughterhouse by Mr. N.G. Rhodes. Mr. Rhodes is a qualified Meat and Food Inspector and is employed full-time at the Slaughterhouse. The meat from this Slaughterhouse is distributed in parts of the districts of four local authorities, approximate population 100,000. The four authorities are responsible for his salary.

The upper section of the Bedwellty Urban Area is supplied with meat from the Tredegar Slaughterhouse. The meat there is also inspected by a qualified Meat and Food Inspector employed wholly by the Tredegar Urban District Council.

Below is an extract from the report of Mr. Rhodes as to the number of animals slaughtered and the amount of meat condemned at the Maesycwmmmer Slaughterhouse.

Animals slaughtered during 1953.

<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
2,827	557	19,140	2,205

Representing approximately 1,160 tons.

The amount of meat and offal condemned at the Slaughterhouse was 17 tons 7 cwts.

E. FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS - SAMPLING.

I am indebted to Mr. A.W. Prosser, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Monmouthshire County Council, for the report on the work done by the Department in 1953, under the Food and Drugs Acts, in the Bedwellty Urban Area.

Samples were procured in New Tredegar, Aberbargoed, Pengam, Fleur-de-lis, Argoed and Blackwood.

Number of samples procured: 120 Milk; 3 Ice-Creams.

The Public Analyst certified 119 Milk and 2 Ice-Creams to be up to standard. 1 Milk was found to be "Deficient in Fat" and to contain added water, and 1 Ice-Cream was found to be "Deficient in Fat".

Legal proceedings were instituted and the Court inflicted fines to the amount of £5 and costs £8. 8. Od.

The average fat content was 3.59% and the average solid content was 8.68%.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Number of Shops and Shop Assistants in the Bedwellty District

	TYPE OF PREMISES				SHOP ASSISTANTS			
	Shops	Sheds	Market Stalls	Total Prems.	Over 18 yrs.	16-18 years	14-16 years	Total
New Tredegar	109	-	-	109	80	14	17	111
Aberbargoed	49	1	-	50	26	10	6	42
Pengam	43	1	-	44	31	10	4	45
Cefn Fforest	25	1	-	26	14	2	-	16
Blackwood	137	3	3	143	308	91	30	429
Argoed	11	3	-	14	6	2	1	9
Markham	8	3	-	11	14	3	1	18
Hollybush	3	-	-	3	1	1	1	3
Totals	385	12	3	400	480	133	60	673

FOOD POISONING

There was no reported outbreak of Food Poisoning during the year.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Number of new licences issued to slaughtermen ...	1
Number of renewals of licences for ...	14

I should like to thank the Members of the Council and the Staff for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DAN POWELL

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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